

Dr. F. Bache announced the decease of Dr. Robert M. Patterson, formerly President of this Society, who died on the 5th instant, in the 68th year of his age :

Whereupon, on motion, Judge Kane was requested to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased, with a view to its publication as a preface to the Transactions of the Society.

Dr. Boyé exhibited, for the inspection of the members, a stereoscopic daguerreotype of a family group, taken by Mr. Mayall, of London, which he considers as indicating great perfection in this art, particularly in the colouring.

Dr. Duglison laid before the Society some specimens of printing, recently brought by him from Vienna, executed in the "K. K. Hof und Staatsdruckerei," in that city. They consist of copies from impressions in lead of laces, leaves, mosses, &c., presenting an exact resemblance of the original ;— an improvement in art which promises to be useful in imitating botanical and other specimens, as well as in preparing copies for the use of the blind, of various subjects which they may admirably study by the touch of copies prepared in this manner.

Judge Kane mentioned that he had lately received a communication from England, containing information from which it appears unlikely that the American Exploring Expedition, under the command of Dr. Kane, will be able to return to this country as soon as was originally expected. The severity of the season and the closeness of the ice succeeding the open season of 1853, will, it is considered probable, detain them in the Arctic regions for another year.

Stated Meeting, October 6.

Present, twenty members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Secretary of l'Ecole des Mines, dated Paris, 13th May, 1854, accompanying a donation for the library:—

From the Lyceum of Natural History, dated New York, September 15, 1854, acknowledging the receipt of No. 51 of the Proceedings of this Society:—

From Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger, dated Philadelphia, September 29, 1854, accompanying a lithographic portrait of the late Dr. Robert M. Bird, presented to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Denkschrift über die Orientalische Pest in sanitätspolizeilicher Beziehung; nebst einer Beilage über den Typhus ikterodes, das sogenannte gelbe Fieber: von Dr. Johann Baptist von Weissbrod, &c. &c. München, 1853. 4to.—*From the Author.*

Denkschrift über die Asiatische Cholera, in sanitätspolizeilicher Beziehung; nebst einer Anhang aphoristischer Bemerkungen über die Epidemie vom Jahre 1836 in München: von Dr. J. B. von Weissbrod, &c. &c. München, 1852. 4to.—*From the same.*

Einige methodologische Worte über Theorie und Praktik der Geburtshilfe, gesprochen von Dr. von Weissbrod, Professor, &c. München, 1853. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Leucocythemia, or White Cell Blood, in relation to the Physiology and Pathology of the Lymphatic Glandular System. By John Hughes Bennett, M. D., F. R. S. E., &c. &c. Edinburgh, 1852. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Annales des Mines. V. Serie. Tome IV. 6 livraison de 1853. Paris. 8vo.—*From the Engineers of l'Ecole des Mines.*

Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. July, 1854. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia. Vol. VII. No. 4. Philadelphia, 1854. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*

Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for the year 1853. Part I. Arts and Manufactures. Washington, 1854. 8vo.—*From the Commissioner of Patents.*

American Journal of the Medical Sciences. No. LVI. New Series. October, 1854. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Dr. Isaac Hays, Editor.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. XII. No. 142. Oct. 1854. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

Astronomical Journal. Vol. IV. No. 3. Sept. 19, 1854. Cambridge. 4to.—*From Dr. B. A. Gould, Jr., Editor.*

The Plough, the Loom and the Anvil. Vol. VII. No. 3. Sept. 1854.
New York. 8vo.—*From the Editor.*

Lithographic Portrait of the late Dr. R. M. Bird.—*From Dr. Ruschenberger.*

Several members appointed at former meetings to prepare obituary notices were discharged from the duty assigned them.

Mr. Justice mentioned a singular instance of deprivation of the senses of taste and smell, resulting from an accidental injury to the head.

About nine months since, a person of his acquaintance was thrown from his carriage while riding. In his fall, his head first came in contact with the ground, producing a concussion of the brain. The injury appeared to have been received behind, but above the ear. He was laid on his bed in a state of total insensibility, and so remained for nearly a month, about which time he revived, and to his surprise found that he had entirely lost both the senses of taste and smell. In this situation he still remains, and it is now equally indifferent to him what he partakes of as food, so far as regards all taste;—Cayenne pepper or saw-dust, as he expressed it, being alike tasteless. But, as a compensation for this loss, he enjoys a constant sensation of a most delightful character, which he can only compare to the most delicious cordial flowing through his mouth. This continues night and day, and is particularly perceptible when his lips are apart and he inhales the air through his mouth. The only intermission to this pleasurable sensation is while he is partaking of his food.

Judge Kane introduced Mr. Weld, Assistant Secretary of the Royal Society of London.

Mr. Justice offered his resignation as a member of the Committee on the Hall, which was, on motion, accepted.

Stated Meeting, October 20.

Present, seventeen members.

JUDGE KANE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences, dated